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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

September 1988

The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Bureau of Labor Statistics Releases Handbook on National Occupational Outlook

For the first time, BLS projections tell American workers--and prospective workers--where the jobs are likely to be up to the 21st century. These projections are published in the 1988-89 edition of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, just issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The *Handbook* now covers 225 occupations--25 more than in the previous edition.

The additions reflect current economic concerns and the increasing complexity of business operations by including occupations such as cost estimators, operations research analysts, and management analysts and consultants. They also reflect scientific breakthroughs and changing demographics by including new fields such as nuclear medicine technology, an aspect of radiologic technology, and homemaker/home health care. Other societal changes are evident in the proliferation of managerial and administrative specialties. The *Handbook* now discusses property and real estate managers and general managers and top executives.

According to the 1988-89 *Handbook*, health and computer fields hold the best prospects for job opportunities. An additional 2.7 million jobs in health-related fields will account for about 1 of 8 new jobs by the year 2000. Job opportunities will be very favorable for registered nurses, therapists, and other health care specialists. Rapid growth also is expected in computer-related occupations, including systems analysts, programmers, and computer operators.

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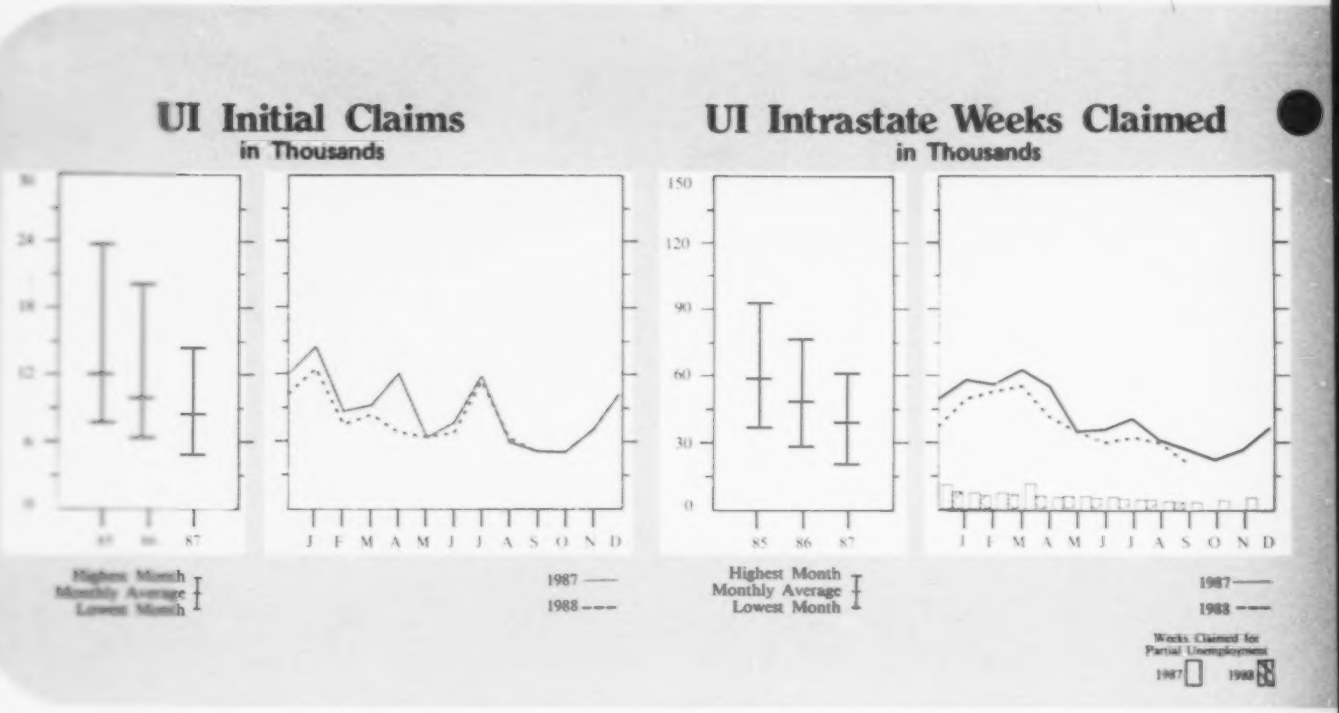

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The occupational projections incorporate assessments of future developments in the labor force, economic performance, structure of demand, and industry employment, with specific assumptions about productivity, unemployment, fiscal policy, defense spending, and taxes. Labor force assessments, for example, include immigration up to the year 2000 and the participation of women and Hispanics in the work force.

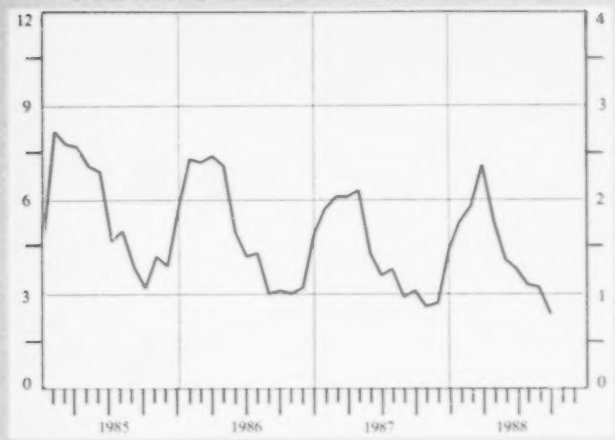
For each of the 225 occupations, the *Handbook* provides information on the nature of the work; working conditions; how many jobs there are and where they are concentrated; the personal qualifications needed; training and education required; the job outlook; earnings; and sources for additional information. Summary data for a number of occupations not included among the 225 are given in an appendix. As in past editions, an introductory chapter provides an overview of the factors underlying future job prospects. Another chapter provides information on additional sources of career-related materials.

This publication may be ordered from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Publication Sales Center, P.O. Box 2145, Chicago, IL 60690. The publication is titled *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 1988-89 Edition*, Bulletin 2300. Paper cover (GPO Stock No. 029-001-02942-0) $22; cloth cover (GPO Stock No. 029-001-02941-1) $24. Checks should be made payable to the Superintendent of Documents.

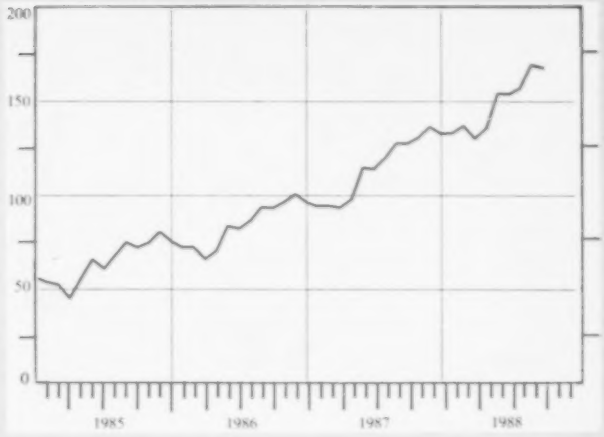
Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments
In Millions

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions
(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work
in Thousands

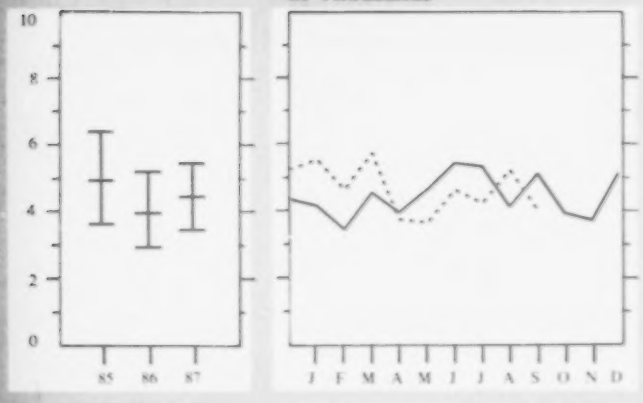
ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	PORTLAND MSA Last Month	PORTLAND MSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	535.7	538.4	515.6	130.1	129.9	127.6	40.9	40.4	39.5
Total Manufacturing	108.5	110.7	104.8	16.7	16.9	16.3	10.3	10.5	10.4
Durable Goods	52.2	52.0	48.4	8.2	8.5	7.8	2.9	2.9	2.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.7	13.8	14.3	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.6	3.6	3.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.9	4.9	4.4	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	12.1	12.1	10.4	3.5	3.5	3.2	0.8	0.8	0.7
Transportation Equipment 2/	13.0	12.6	10.9	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other Durable Goods 3/	4.9	5.0	4.9	1.2	1.5	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.5
Nondurable Goods	56.3	58.7	56.4	8.5	8.4	8.5	7.4	7.6	7.6
Food and Kindred Products	7.6	8.8	7.8	1.9	1.9	2.1	0.9	1.0	0.9
Textile Mill Products	6.1	6.3	6.4	(d)	(d)	(d)	1.1	1.2	1.2
Apparel and Other Textile Products	3.1	3.2	3.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.1	17.6	16.7	(d)	(d)	(d)	0.5	0.5	0.5
Printing and Publishing	5.5	5.4	5.4	1.7	1.6	1.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.6	3.8	3.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.7	1.9	1.8
Leather and Leather Products	12.0	12.3	12.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	2.4	2.3	2.3
Footwear (except Rubber)	10.1	10.4	10.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.9	1.9	1.9
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	1.3	1.3	1.3	3.0	3.0	2.7	*	*	0.1
Total Nonmanufacturing	427.2	427.7	410.8	113.4	113.0	111.3	30.6	29.9	29.1
Construction and Mining	37.1	38.4	33.1	9.7	10.1	10.0	2.5	2.6	2.4
Building Construction	13.0	13.8	12.6	2.8	3.0	2.7	0.7	0.7	0.5
Special Trades Contractor	16.9	17.2	14.8	5.2	5.3	4.8	1.7	1.7	1.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.9	21.7	21.0	5.8	5.9	6.1	1.5	1.5	1.4
Wholesale Trade	25.0	25.4	24.3	10.2	10.2	9.7	2.1	2.1	2.0
Retail Trade	108.5	112.0	105.4	28.5	28.6	28.0	7.9	8.0	7.7
Food Stores	19.6	20.5	19.5	4.7	4.7	4.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Eating and Drinking Places	36.4	39.4	33.6	8.7	9.2	8.3	2.4	2.5	2.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	25.4	25.6	25.2	12.8	13.0	12.6	2.5	2.4	2.2
Banking	9.0	9.3	8.5	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	10.0	9.9	10.4	6.2	6.2	5.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
Services	117.7	124.4	112.0	30.7	31.2	30.2	10.2	10.0	9.7
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	11.7	15.7	10.5	2.4	2.8	1.7	0.3	0.6	0.3
Business Services	12.1	12.4	11.8	5.3	5.4	4.8	1.0	1.0	0.9
Health Services	43.0	42.7	40.5	10.4	10.3	9.9	4.3	4.2	4.0
Federal Government	18.6	18.5	18.7	2.0	2.1	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.3
State and Local Government 5/	73.0	61.7	71.1	13.7	11.9	12.8	3.6	3.0	3.4
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Transportation equipment and instruments are combined in the Lewiston series. 3/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 25, 32, 37, 38, 39; Lewiston - 25, 32, 39. 4/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 22, 26, 28, 29; Lewiston - 28, 29. 5/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

New Applications For Work

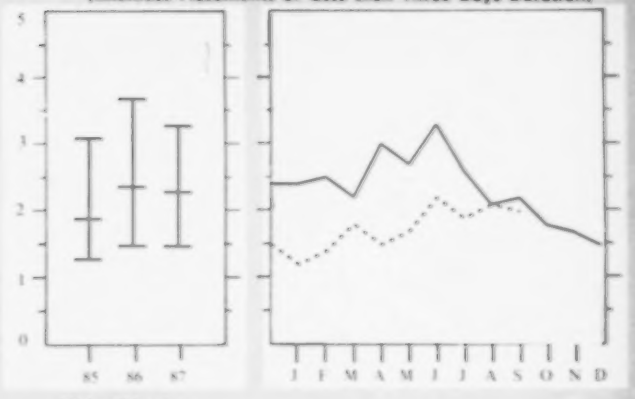
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1987	1986	1985
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$373.73	$357.90	$367.69	40.8	39.9	41.5	$9.16	$8.97	$8.86	$8.77	$8.65	$8.40
Durable Goods	353.68	339.16	356.58	40.7	39.3	42.5	8.69	8.63	8.39	8.32	8.32	8.46
Lumber and Wood Products	371.46	352.22	331.27	41.0	40.3	42.2	9.06	8.74	7.85	7.82	7.74	8.06
Primary and Fabricated Metals	397.78	390.10	388.29	46.2	43.2	43.0	8.61	9.03	9.03	8.94	8.58	8.25
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	451.83	421.15	417.70	52.6	49.2	45.7	8.59	8.56	9.14	9.20	9.62	9.11
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	313.77	310.63	326.01	35.9	35.5	40.1	8.74	8.75	8.13	8.03	7.94	7.57
Other Durable Goods	332.24	318.06	378.45	39.6	38.0	43.5	8.39	8.37	8.70	8.60	9.41	9.50
Nondurable Goods	394.01	374.51	378.10	41.0	40.4	40.7	9.61	9.27	9.29	9.18	8.76	8.31
Food and Kindred Products	290.88	287.91	259.20	40.4	43.1	36.1	7.20	6.68	7.18	7.16	7.00	6.63
Textile Mill Products	318.11	312.44	308.80	41.1	39.7	40.9	7.74	7.87	7.55	7.35	7.04	6.64
Apparel and Other Textile Products	266.39	244.48	216.22	39.7	38.5	36.4	6.71	6.34	5.94	5.92	5.73	5.83
Paper and Allied Products	638.37	607.20	628.83	45.5	44.0	45.8	14.03	13.80	13.73	13.43	12.70	12.25
Leather and Leather Products	250.42	240.78	239.53	38.0	37.1	37.9	6.59	6.49	6.32	6.34	6.05	5.93
Other Nondurable Goods	322.13	315.62	336.61	37.5	36.7	41.0	8.59	8.60	8.21	8.28	8.00	7.51
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	399.11	385.70	378.56	42.1	40.6	41.6	9.48	9.50	9.10	9.13	9.17	8.90
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	321.79	308.84	296.81	39.1	37.3	38.9	8.23	8.28	7.63	7.40	7.19	6.78

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	270.2	271.4	266.3
Unemployed	7.0	8.9	10.6
(Percent)	2.6%	3.3%	4.0%
Resident Employed	263.2	262.5	255.7

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	119.8	119.0	115.0	115.4

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.7
Percent Change from Last December	+3.8
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+4.2

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-Statewide	604.6	619.2	606.6	591.6	603.1	587.3	13.0	16.1	19.3	2.2	2.6	3.2
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	42,700	42,600	43,000	41,800	41,500	41,800	900	1,100	1,200	2.1	2.6	2.8
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	41,300	41,100	41,100	40,200	39,860	39,500	1,100	1,300	1,600	2.7	3.2	3.9
Portland MSA	128,300	129,600	128,200	126,700	127,800	125,900	1,600	1,800	2,300	1.2	1.4	1.8
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA 3/	n/a	138,900	135,800	n/a	136,500	133,100	n/a	2,400	2,700	n/a	1.7	2.0
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	34,410	34,990	34,030	33,790	34,170	32,660	620	820	1,370	1.8	2.3	4.0
Bath-Brunswick	29,690	29,680	28,120	29,270	29,130	27,200	420	550	920	1.4	1.9	3.3
Belfast	11,800	12,090	12,260	11,230	11,310	11,810	570	780	450	4.8	6.5	3.7
Biddeford	25,740	27,320	27,490	25,300	26,870	26,880	440	450	610	1.7	1.6	2.2
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	16,280	16,150	15,930	16,080	17,930	15,610	200	220	320	1.2	1.2	2.0
Calais-Eastport	15,020	16,780	14,980	14,240	15,740	14,160	780	1,040	820	5.2	6.2	5.5
Caribou-Presque Isle	23,140	21,890	23,160	22,200	20,600	21,540	940	1,290	1,620	4.1	5.9	7.0
Central Penobscot	2,760	2,700	2,590	2,700	2,630	2,490	60	70	100	2.2	2.6	3.9
Dover-Foxcroft	6,700	6,730	6,820	6,520	6,510	6,540	180	220	280	2.7	3.3	4.1
Ellsworth	25,300	28,480	25,170	24,870	27,950	24,550	430	530	620	1.7	1.9	2.5
Farmington	12,490	12,390	12,300	12,160	11,910	11,720	330	480	580	2.6	3.9	4.7
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,840	5,150	6,050	5,680	4,990	5,750	160	160	300	2.7	3.1	5.0
Greenville	1,530	1,560	1,520	1,490	1,540	1,480	40	20	40	2.6	1.3	2.6
Houlton	6,400	6,510	6,750	6,270	6,140	6,490	130	370	260	2.0	5.7	3.9
Kittery-York 3/	30,860	31,100	30,230	30,670	30,900	29,960	190	200	270	0.6	0.6	0.9
Lincoln-Howland	5,620	5,700	5,700	5,400	5,410	5,460	220	290	240	3.9	5.1	4.2
Livermore Falls	4,380	3,990	4,800	4,230	3,780	4,550	150	210	250	3.4	5.3	5.2
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,230	4,130	4,280	4,030	3,920	4,000	200	210	280	4.7	5.1	6.5
Millinocket-East Millinocket	3,850	3,870	4,140	3,700	3,710	3,940	150	160	200	3.9	4.1	4.8
Norway-Paris	12,520	13,350	12,280	12,190	13,010	11,890	330	340	390	2.6	2.5	3.2
Patten-Island Falls	2,550	2,470	2,610	2,510	2,370	2,490	40	100	120	1.6	4.0	4.6
Rockland	19,480	19,720	18,920	19,150	19,410	18,540	330	310	380	1.7	1.6	2.0
Rumford	8,250	8,230	8,510	7,910	7,860	8,070	340	370	440	4.1	4.5	5.2
Sanford	14,660	17,320	15,840	14,330	16,890	15,360	330	430	480	2.3	2.5	3.0
Sebago Lakes Region	12,530	14,330	12,530	12,340	14,090	12,130	190	240	400	1.5	1.7	3.2
Skowhegan	22,700	23,140	22,750	21,910	22,140	21,680	790	1,000	1,070	3.5	4.3	4.7
Southwest Penobscot	10,210	10,400	10,400	9,870	9,990	9,850	340	410	550	3.3	3.9	5.3
Waterville	23,490	23,830	24,060	22,960	23,210	23,300	530	620	760	2.3	2.6	3.2
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,782.4	1,748.9	n/a	1,727.9	1,698.5	n/a	54.5	50.4	n/a	3.1	2.9
Massachusetts	3,130.0	3,186.0	3,065.2	3,036.0	3,088.0	2,980.6	94.0	98.0	84.5	3.0	3.1	2.8
New Hampshire	n/a	618.3	602.0	n/a	604.4	587.7	n/a	13.9	14.3	n/a	2.2	2.4
Rhode Island	523.8	523.4	523.1	511.0	509.0	505.9	12.8	14.4	17.2	2.4	2.8	3.3
Vermont	300.0	303.1	297.8	294.4	297.8	290.0	5.6	5.3	7.8	1.9	1.7	2.6
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	7,032.4	6,843.5	n/a	6,830.2	6,650.0	n/a	202.2	193.5	n/a	2.9	2.8
UNITED STATES 4/	121,842	123,396	119,884	115,474	116,737	113,027	6,368	6,659	6,857	5.2	5.4	5.7

MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note

n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.

2/ Current and last month figures preliminary, year ago figures revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

4/ National estimates based on a sample of household units, state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE DEVELOPED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	3,550	4,934	4,278	438	565	494	336	490	457
Insured Unemployment Rate *	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.9	1.3	1.3

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

Maine Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

In Thousands

ITEM	1988 3rd Quarter	Previous Quarter	Year Ago	Net Change to Current Quarter From Previous Quarter	Net Change to Current Quarter From Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment	534.7	522.8	512.3	+11.9	+22.4
Total Manufacturing	107.5	106.4	103.2	+ 1.1	+ 4.3
Durable Goods	51.7	49.6	47.7	+ 2.1	+ 4.0
Lumber and Wood Products	13.6	12.1	14.3	+ 1.5	- 0.7
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.6	3.5	3.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.9	4.7	4.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	11.9	11.8	10.1	+ 0.1	+ 1.8
Transportation Equipment	12.8	12.5	10.8	+ 0.3	+ 2.0
Other Durable Goods	4.9	5.0	4.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	55.8	56.8	55.5	- 1.0	+ 0.3
Food and Kindred Products	8.0	7.3	8.2	+ 0.7	- 0.2
Textile Mill Products	5.7	6.7	6.0	- 1.0	- 0.3
Apparel and Other Textile Products	3.0	3.1	3.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.4	17.3	16.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.0
Printing and Publishing	5.4	5.5	5.3	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.7	3.8	3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Leather and Leather Products	11.3	11.9	11.8	- 0.6	- 0.5
Footwear (except Rubber)	9.5	10.0	9.8	- 0.5	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.2	1.3	+ 0.1	0.0
Total Nonmanufacturing	427.2	416.4	409.1	+10.8	+18.1
Construction and Mining	37.8	34.3	34.1	+ 3.5	+ 3.7
Building Construction	13.5	12.3	12.9	+ 1.2	+ 0.6
Special Trades Contractor	17.0	15.9	15.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.8	21.0	20.9	+ 0.8	+ 0.9
Wholesale Trade	25.2	24.9	24.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
Retail Trade	110.7	106.4	106.2	+ 4.3	+ 4.5
Food Stores	20.2	20.0	19.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Eating and Drinking Places	38.4	34.8	35.2	+ 3.6	+ 3.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	25.5	25.4	25.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Banking	9.2	9.1	8.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	9.9	10.0	10.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
Services	121.9	113.2	115.3	+ 8.7	+ 6.6
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	14.1	8.8	13.0	+ 5.3	+ 1.1
Business Services	12.3	12.0	12.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Health Services	42.9	42.5	40.2	+ 0.4	+ 2.7
Federal Government	18.6	18.5	18.6	+ 0.1	0.0
State and Local Government	65.7	72.7	64.1	- 7.0	+ 1.6
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	1.2	1.6	1.2	- 0.4	0.0

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Labor Market Information Services

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